



U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Attorney  
District of Kansas

## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **KANSAS BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS RECEIVES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GRANT**

WICHITA, Kan. -- United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced today that **the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, has awarded a \$496,750 grant to Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters.**

Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters plans to use this grant to expand the Cops for Kids program, a program that matches law enforcement officers with at-risk children, across Kansas. The ultimate goal is to have a Cops for Kids program in every county in Kansas. This grant will also provide funding for an additional 1500 Kansas children to participate in Big Brothers Big Sisters. These children live in primarily rural unserved or under-served areas and are most at-risk of educational failure, dropping out of school, or involvement in criminal or delinquent activities. The children will be matched with mentors who will provide them with emotional support, academic assistance and exposure to new experiences.

For additional details about Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters or if you would like to learn about becoming a mentor, call (316) 263-3300.

"A caring mentor can make a positive difference in a child's life," Melgren said. "The U.S. Attorney's Office is pleased to announce this grant in support of Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters."